

Requirements and Specifics for Volunteers

Requirements:

- You must have your supervisor's approval.
- Contact your Agency's Human Resource Office's designated point of contact to indicate your interest in volunteering.
- You must be physically able to work in a disaster area without refrigeration for medications and have the ability to work in the outdoors all day.
- You must be willing to work long hours under arduous conditions.
- You must have a Government travel credit card.

Role of assigned personnel:

- Establish and maintain positive working relationships with disaster affected communities and the citizens of those communities.
- Collect and disseminate information and make referrals for appropriate assistance.
- Identify potential issues within the community and report to appropriate personnel.
- Convey a positive image of disaster operations to government officials, community organizations and the general public.
- Perform outreach with community leaders on available Federal disaster assistance.

Skills especially needed:

- Bilingual capabilities (all languages)
- Commercial Driver's License (CDL)
- Logistics capabilities
- Information technology (GS-2210's, including telecom specialists)

How to volunteer:

- After obtaining your supervisor's approval, contact your designated agency Point of Contact (POC)
- Your agency POC will forward your contact information to DHS/FEMA. If you are selected for a field assignment, you will be contacted directly by FEMA with instructions on when to report for training.

Deployment information:

- Volunteers will be deployed via Orlando to a disaster Joint Field Office (JFO) when conditions are safe. Some FEMA organizational clothing, FEMA identification and equipment will be supplied. FEMA will also enter your contact information into their data base so you can be reached either by your agency or by family and friends in case of emergency.

Type of personal supplies you should bring:

- Sunscreen
- Sun hat
- Sun glasses
- Walking shoes
- Mosquito repellent
- Medication (both over the counter and prescription)
- Valid driver's license
- Government ID
- Cash (ATM's may not be working)
- Government equipment (cell phones, computers, blackberries, etc.)
- Appropriate clothing (walking shorts acceptable)
- Rain gear

When deployed, you should bring personal effects sufficient to last for a minimum period of thirty (30) days.